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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jeffrey Van Ness, John C. Tabone, J. Jeffry Howbert,
and John T. Mulligan

Application No. : 08/898,501

Filed : July 22, 1997

For : METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ENHANCING
SENSITIVITY IN THE ANALYSIS OF BIOLOGICAL-BASED
ASSAYS

Docket No. : 240052.418C1

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
2011 Jefferson Davis Highway
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION

As the below-named inventors, we declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenships are as stated below under our respective names.

We believe we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the invention entitled "METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ENHANCING SENSITIVITY IN THE ANALYSIS OF BIOLOGICAL-BASED ASSAYS," which is described and claimed in the above-identified U.S. patent application for which a patent is sought, and this application in part discloses and claims subject matter disclosed in our earlier-filed applications, where this application according to at least one of 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 365 claims priority to, and is a continuation-in-part of, U.S. Application No. 08/787,521, filed January 22, 1997; which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/010,436, filed January 23, 1996 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/015,402 filed March 21, 1996.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein (if any).

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), including material information which occurred between the filing date of said earlier-filed application and the present.

We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that the making of willfully false statements and the like is punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may jeopardize the validity of any patent issuing from this patent application.

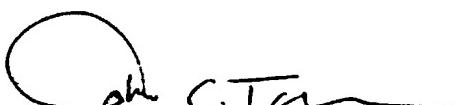

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